

108 Watershed and Water Levels Meeting Summary as at 7 May 2007

Date: Tuesday 1 May 2007

Time: 7:05pm to 9:15pm

Location: 108 Mile Ranch Community Hall

Al Richmond, Cariboo Regional Director for Area G opened the meeting, and introduced Mike Simpson of Fraser Basin Council. The objectives of the meeting were to understand what is happening to the 108 lake level, by providing information to the public about the 108 watershed. This information is the basis for participants to identify next steps for them to generate discussion and derive possible actions or adaptations they can take to mitigate impacts on the watershed.

The following speakers provided information on the following topics:

- Ken Kvist, Water Technical Officer, Ministry of Environment – Watershed area and hydrology, and water allocation: how big is the area, how much water is there, who's licensed to use it
- Mitch Minchau, Manager of Environmental Services, Cariboo Regional District and Paul Blackett, Kala Groundwater Consulting Ltd. – Domestic water system and the 108 lake – what's the relationship?
- Katharine VanSpall, Ducks Unlimited – Wetland and habitat enhancement projects in the 108 watershed
- Bill Harris, 108 Resort – Golf course irrigation
- Marvin Monical, local rancher – ranching and water use
- Graham Allison, 108 Greenbelt Commission – activities in the greenbelt and impacts on water
- Bonnie Winter, BC Lake Stewardship Society – water quality monitoring and volunteer efforts

Based on the information presented, the discussion led to the conclusion that low lake levels have generally resulted from changes in weather patterns as opposed to industrial use. Restricting industrial use currently allowed would have a negligible impact on lake levels.

Resources

Resources identified by Ken Kvist include the following:

- MOE and water stewardship <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/>
- MOE and groundwater
http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/plan_protect_sustain/groundwater/index.html
- MOE and aquifers
http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/plan_protect_sustain/groundwater/aquifers/index.html

Next Steps

Participants agreed to meet again in the fall. No date was set at this point.

There was a desire for **more information** on the following:

Information requested on	Source of information identified
Historical lake levels	Wendel Monical for historical information, old aerial photographs
Dredging between Sepa and 108 lakes, oxygen levels in the 2 lakes, and potential impacts	Chris Swan, Ministry of Environment, Williams Lake – to be contacted before a fall meeting
Culverts – could they direct runoff towards the lake?	Ministry of Transportation, Ministry of Environment – to be contacted before a fall meeting
Fires, dead timber, and timber harvesting	None identified
Grassland restoration	None identified
Soil moisture content	None identified
Adapting to lower lake levels	None identified

There was a desire for **action** on the following:

Action identified	Lead agency or person
Check for blockages in DU structures upstream of Tubbs Lake	DU will assess in summer 2007
Develop a community strategy for groundwater use	CRD is working on this – does the 108 community want to do more?
Post groundwater monitoring information on the 108 community website	None identified
Meet in fall 2007	Mike Simpson, Fraser Basin Council, will email participants in early August to set the date